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Late sowing losses and barley averages

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If the calculated drops in yield due to late sowing are reliable, they should bear some relation to the preference for barley as a crop in the various areas.

Taking a 10 day-schedule and good drainage (Class A) as a standard, and grouping together the various counties we find:

Late sowing losses (10A)		Percentage of farm area in barley. Summer 1968
1 - 1½%	Cambridge & Suffolk.	34
1½- 2%	Essex, Hunts, Beds.	31
2 - 2½%	Berks, Notts, Herts, Oxford, Kent.	29
2½- 3%	Norfolk, East Riding.	33
3 - 3¼%	Leics., Northants, Sussex, Surrey, Dorset, Hants.	24
3¼- 3½%	Lincs., Wilts., Bucks., Salop, Worcs.	24
over 3½%	Warwick, Gloucester.	22

The Norfolk, East Riding area is the only discrepancy. This suggests that Sprowston and Sandringham may not be typical of Norfolk. It also suggests that late sowing in the E R may not quite fit the model of crop loss. If the model is shifted one week later to allow for lower soil temperatures and later spring in the north the (10A) losses in the E R fall from 2.7% to 1.4%.

Any comments or suggestions on this paper should be referred to the author.

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